



KentuckyHistoricalSociety

2009 American History Teacher of the Year Award

Contest for Elementary School Teachers

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Sponsored by the Gilder Lehrman Institute of American History, the sixth annual History Teacher of the Year Award honors outstanding teachers of American history across the country. Finalists will be selected from each of the fifty states, the District of Columbia, Department of Defense schools, and U.S. Territories. From these local winners, one honoree will be recognized as the National History Teacher of the Year. In partnership with the Kentucky Historical Society, a Kentucky teacher will be selected to represent the commonwealth in this national competition.

Award

From the submissions, five teachers will be asked to send in additional materials for consideration. The Gilder Lehrman Institute of American History will honor each state winner with an award of \$1,000. The school of the winner will also be presented with an archive of primary historical materials, named in honor of that teacher, for use in the school library or resource center. Winners are selected in each state by panels of distinguished history educators under the supervision of the Gilder Lehrman Institute.

Eligibility

A full-time elementary school teacher (K-6) who teaches American history as his or her primary subject, or as part of their curriculum, with the following qualifications, may be nominated:

- At least three years of classroom experience in teaching American history in an elementary school.
- A deep career commitment to teaching American history, which includes local and state history.
- Evidence of creativity and imagination in the classroom that addresses literacy and content beyond state standards.
- Close attention to primary documents, artifacts, historic sites, and other primary materials of history, including oral history.
- Evidence of thoughtful assessment of student achievement.

Nomination Requirements

1. The nominee's resume.
2. A letter of nomination that addresses the award criteria and includes quantitative measures of student achievement. Nominations can be made by a department or division head, a school director, social studies director, principal or superintendent. Nominations from friends, family, and students will also be accepted.
3. A letter of support from a colleague, immediate supervisor, or education professional familiar with the nominee's work.

Deadline

The deadline for nomination packages is April 30, 2009. The five finalists will be notified by May 8, 2009, and the required additional materials are due May 29, 2009. The state winner will be announced in June and the National History Teacher of the Year will be honored in fall 2009 in New York City.

Submit an original and three copies of all nomination materials to the address below by April 30, 2009.

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